

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Entry of these amendments and remarks is respectfully requested. All amendments are made without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute any cancelled or otherwise unclaimed subject matter in another application.

Claims 89, 90, 95, 99, 100, and 105 have been amended to include “or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof” following “naltrexone”. These amendments do not add any new matter and are supported by the originally filed application at, for example, paragraphs [0051] and [0053]. Applicants respectfully submit that: A) this amendment is necessary to clarify that the claims encompass pharmaceutically acceptable salts of naltrexone; B) the amendments do not change the scope of the patentable subject matter of the claims and will not require any additional search or examination; C) the claims are patentable after amendment for the same reasons the same were patentable before amendment; and, D) the amendments were not presented earlier because the issues related thereto were not apparent to the Applicants. Applicants believe these amendments are proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

Claims 88, 91, 92, 95, 96, 101, 102 and 105 have been amended to include “pharmaceutically acceptable salt(s) thereof” with respect to the terms “opioid agonist” (claims 88 and 96), the Markush listing of exemplary opioid agonists (claims 91 and 101), and morphine (claims 92, 95, 102, and 105). These amendments do not add any new matter and are supported by the originally filed application at, for example, paragraphs [0039] - [0041]. Applicants respectfully submit that: A) this amendment is necessary to clarify that the claims encompass pharmaceutically acceptable salts of opioid agonists; B) the amendments do not change the scope of the patentable subject matter of the claims and will not require any additional search or examination; C) the claims are patentable after amendment for the same reasons the same were patentable before amendment; and, D) the amendments were not presented earlier because the issues related thereto were not apparent to the Applicants. Applicants believe these amendments are proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

CONCLUSIONS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of these amendments as soon as possible is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned if it is believed doing so would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Patrick J. Halloran/

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